योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बलराम सिंह यादव): (क) जी हां, दिनांक 30-9-1995 की स्थिति के अनुसार कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन विभाग के प्रबोधन पर केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र की 374 परियोजनाओं की समीक्षा के अनुसार केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र की 44 परियोजनाएं 10 वर्षों से भी अधिक समय से कार्यान्वयनाधीन थीं।

(ख) सरकार निरंतर रूप से इन परियोजनाओं की प्रगति की समीक्षा कर रही है। ऐसी परियोजनाओं, जिनमें सरकार द्वारा आगामी कार्यान्वयन संभाव्य नहीं है, को आगामी कार्यवाही हेतु पहचाना जा रहा है।

(ग) 44 परियोजनाओं की मूल लागत एवं वर्तमान अनुमानित लागत का ब्यौरा विवरण अनुपत्र में दिया गया है। [देखिए परिशिष्ट 176, अनुपत्र सं० 47]

(घ) एवं (ङ) आगामी आवश्यक कार्रवाई हेतु अनुत्पादक परियोजनाओं की पहचान करने के लिए परियोजनाओं के पुनःप्राथमिकीकरण का कार्य प्रारंभ किया गया है।

Curbing of Child Labour

1155. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has directed the Centre to "Spell out steps to curb child labour" in the country as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 22nd February, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether it is a fact that thousands of children are being exploited by bangle industry owners in Ferozabad and even being sold at "child mandis" in that city; and

(c) what steps Government have taken so far to liberate children from bonded labour?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) In response to the writ petition filed by All India Lawyers Forum For Civil Liberties (LFCL), the Supreme Court had directed Union of India to file counter affidavit on the points raised in the writ petition. The writ petition was based on the report appearing in daily newspaper "The Indian Express" dated 23.5.1995 that bonded children were offered for sale at child mandis for work in the glass bangle industry. In this connection, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has reported that adult as well as child labour assemble in the mandis offering themselves for days' employment on settled wages. This phenomenon has been controlled after raids conducted by the district administration and there is no element of forced labour.

(c) Government of Uttar Pradesh has launched a special drive for extensive inspections of factories under various labour laws. A total of 1836 inspections were carried out between 1992 and 1995 and 1696 prosecutions were launched for violation of child labour laws. Apart from the enforcement of child labour laws, a number of steps have also been taken as per the National Child Labour Policy announced in 1987. The Government of India has extended financial assistance for area specific projects for the benefit of child labour working in the glass industry at Ferozabad. Presently, 3,500 children are covered by 40 special schools where they are provided with non-formal education, vocational training, nutrition and stipend of Rs. 100/- per month. Apart from this, assistance is being extended for awareness generation and survey of child labour working in hazardous occupations in the district. Recently, the Central Government has also sanctioned and funded a project proposal for upgradation of technology in the glass industry which will encourage the employment of adult workers in different processes in the glass bangle industry and also make the process cost effective.

The District Administration of Ferozabad is making all possible efforts to improve the economic condition of the affected families through the available financial resources under various developmental schemes such as IRDP,

Indira Awas Yojna, Nehru Rozgar Yojna etc.

अनुसंधान और विकास के संबंध में मसाला बोर्ड और कृषि मंत्रालय के बीच समन्वय के अभाव का प्रभाव

1156. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या मसाला बोर्ड और कृषि मंत्रालय के बीच समन्वय का अभाव है जिसके परिणामस्वरूप मसाला क्षेत्र में अनुसंधान और विकास पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके संबंध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है;

(ग) सरकार द्वारा इस समस्या को हल करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं और इस संबंध में अब तक कितनी सफलता मिली है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० चिदम्बरम): (क) से (घ) मसाला क्षेत्र में अनुसंधान तथा विकास के संबंध में भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद् (आई०सी०ए०आर०), कृषि अनुसंधान तथा शिक्षा विभाग, कृषि मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत मसाला बोर्ड/वाणिज्य मंत्रालय तथा भारतीय मसाला अनुसंधान संस्थान, कालीकट के बीच कारगर समन्वयन है। भारतीय मसाला अनुसंधान परिषद् के प्रतिनिधियों सहित कृषि मंत्रालय के प्रतिनिधियों को मसाला बोर्ड तथा मसाला बोर्ड की अनुसंधान और विकास समितियों में प्रतिनिधित्व दिया जाता है। इसी प्रकार, मसाला बोर्ड के वैज्ञानिकों तथा वरिष्ठ कार्यकारियों को अनुसंधान सलाहकार समिति तथा भारतीय मसाला अनुसंधान संस्थान की स्टॉफ अनुसंधान परिषद् की बैठकों में आमंत्रित किया जाता है।

इस समन्वयन को और सुदृढ़ करने के लिए एक कार्यक्रम तथा सदस्य (कृषि), योजना आयोग की अध्यक्षता में प्रबंध समिति का गठन किया गया है जिसमें वाणिज्य मंत्रालय, मसाला बोर्ड, योजना आयोग, आई०सी०ए०आर० तथा कृषि मंत्रालय के प्रतिनिधि शामिल हैं।

Export of levy rice meant for Weaker Section

1157. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided some time back to export levy rice meant for supply to weaker section of the country through Public Distribution System;

(b) the reasons therefore; and

(c) to what extent supply of rice to weaker section was affected as a result of such decision?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) (a) to (c) In view of the comfortable stock position of rice in the Central Pool the Government has authorised FCI to export/sell for the purpose of export upto 3 million tonnes of fine and superfine rice during 1995-96 in order to reduce the carrying cost of surplus stocks and make available the storage space for on-going-ensuing procurement. The huge stocks at present accumulated in the public stocks held by the FCI comprises both levy rice and rice milled out of paddy procured under the Price Support operation by the FCI and State Agencies. The ceiling for export of rice has been fixed after taking into account the requirement to run the Public Distribution System (PDS) and Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) under which the offtake of rice has been far less than what has been allotted to the States/Union Territories. Therefore, the decision to export a portion of stock has not affected the PDS consumers including weaker sections.